

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 NEW DE 07290 091906Z
ACTION HA-05

INFO OCT-01 NEA-11 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00
PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 /067 W
-----053083 100525Z /20
R 091136Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1481

C O N F I D E N T I A L NEW DELHI 7290

FOL TEL SENT ACTION NEW DELHI, INFO BOMBAY, DACCA, MADRAS
FROM CALCUTTA MAY 9, 9 PM SIGNED LYDON RPTD YOU

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L CALCUTTA 0769

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, SREF, IN, BG
SUBJECT: GOWB PREOCCUPATIONS WITH DANDAKARNYA REFUGEE ON
BANGLADESH BORDER; POSSIBLE COMPLICATIONS WITH BANGLADESH;
GOWB POLICIES TOWARD MUJIBIST EXILES FROM BANGLADESH.

1. IN A PRIVATE CONVERSATION ON FRIDAY, MAY 5,
THE ADVOCATE GENERAL OF WEST BENGAL, S.K. ACHARYYA,
A FELLOW CPM MEMBER AND CLOSE PERSONAL FRIEND OF THE
CHIEF MINISTER, SAID THAT JYOTI BASU IN THE PAST WEEKS HAD
BEEN VERY MUCH PREOCCUPIED WITH THE REFUGEE QUESTION
AND PUT IN MANY HOURS WORKING ON IT. IN GENERAL, ACHARYYA
SAID, THE PROBLEM IS GOING A LITTLE BETTER THESE DAYS.
MANY OF THE REFUGEES ARE FILTERING BACK FROM THEIR
SEMI-HIDEOUTS IN THE FOREST AND IN UNAUTHORIZED AREAS
TO THE CAMPS SET UP FOR THEM BY THE GOVERNMENT OF
WEST BENGAL. THE WORKING RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE
STATE OFFICIALS AND THE REFUGEES IS GRADUALLY CALMING
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 NEW DE 07290 091906Z

DOWN AND BECOMING MORE REASONABLE. ACHARYYA BELIEVED
THERE ARE NOW ABOUT 35,000 REFUGEES IN THE
HASNABAD AREA, ALTHOUGH WE NOTE THAT HIGHER
FIGURES ARE OFTEN CITED.

2. ACHARYYA SAID, HOWEVER, THAT THE GOVERNMENT
OF WEST BENGAL IS WORRIED BECAUSE IT APPEARS THAT

CERTAIN "MUJIBSITS," BOTH HINDU AND MUSLIMS,
ARE COMING ACROSS THE BORDER FROM BANGALDESH AND
RECRUITING PEOPLE AMONG THE REFUGEES, PARTICULARLY
YOUNG MEN, TO CROSS THE BORDER BACK INTO BANGALDESH.
ACHARYYA SAID THAT THESE MUJIBISTS WERE OF THE
SAME GENERAL PERSUASION AS "TIGER" SIDDIQUI, A
FORMER Mukti Bahini OFFICER WHO IS BELIEVED TO
HAVE LED RAIDS AGAINST BANGALDESH FROM THE INDIAN
SIDE OF THE BORDER AFTER THE FALL AND THE
ASSASSINATION OF MUJIB.

3 ACHARYYA WENT ON TO RECOUNT HIS SURPRISE AND ANGER
WHEN TIGER SIDDIQUI HAD CALLED ON HIM AT ACHARYYA'S
HOUSE WITHOUT WARNING SHORTLY AFTER THE LEFT FRONT
GOVERNMENT TOOK OFFICE IN JUNE 1977. SIDDIQUI
THEN WANTED MONEY FROM ACHARYYA OR FROM THE CPM,
ACHARYYA GAVE HIM NONE, AND TOLD SIDDIQUI THAT AS SOON AS THE
CPM HAD TAKEN OVER THE GOVERNMENT IN WEST BENGAL, IT HAD
DECIDED THAT THE THREE RULES CONCERNING BANGLADESH, EXILES IN
WEST BENGAL WOULD BE THAT AS FAR AS THE LEFT FRONT
GOVERNMENT WAS CONCERNED, 1) NONE WOULD BE FORCED
BACK INTO BANGALDESH, 2) NO POLITICAL ACTIVITY
ON THE PART OF THE EXILES WOULD BE PERMITTED IN
WEST BENGAL, AND 3) SHOULD ANY OF THE EXILES NEED
INDIAN PASSPORTS FOR PURPOSES OF FOREIGN TRAVEL
THE GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL WOULD TRY TO HELP
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 NEW DE 07290 091906Z

THEM OBTAIN PASSPORTS FROM THE GOI.

4. ACHARYYA WAS VERY ANGRY TO FIND HIMSELF
SUDDENLY CONFRONTED WITH SIDDIQUI BECAUSE
HE WAS AWARE THAT SIDDIQUI WAS ALWAYS UNDER CLOSE
GOI POLICE SURVEILLANCE AND THAT THE VISIT TO HIM
AT HIS HOUSE WOULD BE OBSERVED, AND COULD GIVE RISE TO
MISUNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE GOI AND THE GOWB. ACHARYYA
BLAMED THE INCIDENT ON GANESH GHOSH, A CPM MEMBER,
WHO HAD BROUGHT SIDDIQUI TO ACHARYYA'S HOUSE. CPM
LEADER PROMODE DAS GUPTA ALSO LATER SEVERELY REPROACHED
GHOSH FOR IT
UNQUOTE
GOHEEN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REFUGEES, POLICIES, EXILES, PERSONNEL MOVEMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978NEWDE07290
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780197-1015
Format: TEL
From: NEW DELHI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780579/aaaacpan.tel
Line Count: 108
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 05882aa2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION HA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2749140
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GOWB PREOCCUPATIONS WITH DANDAKARNYA REFUGEE ON BANGLADESH BORDER; POSSIBLE COMPLICATIONS WITH BANGLADESH; GOWB POLICIES TOWARD MUJIBIST EXILES FROM BANGLAD
TAGS: PINT, SREF, IN, BG
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/05882aa2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014